

Message Text

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71

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TAGS: PARM, CCD, US, UR

SUBJ: CCD - BUCHHEIM STATEMENT AT FOURTH INFORMAL

MEETING OF EXPERTS ON MDW, AUGUST 12, 1976

1. FOLLOWING IS BUCHHEIM STATEMENT MADE AT FOURTH INFORMAL
MEETING OF EXPERTS ON MDW, AUGUST 12, 1976.

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN, THIS IS THE FOURTH DAY OF OUR INFORMAL
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DISCUSSIONS OF A VERY COMPLEX SUBJECT. THE SUBJECT IS NOT

ONLY COMPLEX. IT ALSO REMAINS SOMEWHAT ELUSIVE BECAUSE IT HAS NOT YET BEEN PLACED ON A STABLE FOUNDATION OF CLEAR AND GENERALLY ACCEPTED UNDERSTANDINGS.

THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO VIEW THE PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET UNION AS AN INITIATIVE TO BE GIVEN CAREFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVELY CRITICAL ATTENTION.

WE ENTERED INTO THESE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN ORDER TO MOVE TOWARD AN INFORMED OPINION OF THE PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET UNION.

THESE FOUR DAYS OF DISCUSSION HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTIVE TO THE U.S. DELEGATION AND WE HAVE NOTED A CONSIDERABLE RANGE OF TOPICS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN FORMULATING OUR FURTHER VIEWS OF THE PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET UNION.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE LIBERTY OF MENTIONING SOME OF THE POINTS THAT WE WILL CARRY AWAY FROM THE DISCUSSIONS THIS WEEK.

ONE -- THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT COME TO A DECISION FOR OR AGAINST THE CONCEPT OF A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ANALYZE THIS IDEA AS FACTS AND ARGUMENTS ARE BROUGHT FORWARD.

TWO -- THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO HOLD THE VIEW THAT THESE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS SHOULD NOT IN ANY WAY, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, CAST UNWARRANTED DOUBT ON THE INTEGRITY OR SCOPE OF APPLICATION OF EXISTING ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENTS OR NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE TOOK PARTICULAR NOTE OF THE STATEMENT ON AUGUST 11 OF THE EXPERT FROM THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CLARIFYING HIS VIEWS OF THE SCOPE OF APPLICATION OF THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION. WE SHALL HAVE FURTHER COMMENTS TO MAKE ON THIS SUBJECT.

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THREE -- WE GAVE CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE DISCUSSION ON AUGUST 11 OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF BULGARIA ON THE SUBJECT OF THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION" ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN AUGUST OF 1948. AMONG OTHER POINTS, HE CORRECTLY TOOK NOTE OF THE FACT THAT THE ADOPTION OF THAT DEFINITION WAS NOT UNANIMOUS. AS I MENTIONED ON AUGUST 8, THE 1948 DEFINITION MAY OR MAY NOT BE ADEQUATE

FOR THE PURPOSES OF THESE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT EXPLORATION OF VARIOUS FORMULATIONS OF A DEFINITION OF THE TERM "NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION" WILL BE RENDERED EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT IF IT CANNOT BE BASED ON A GENERALLY ACCEPTED DEFINITION OR CHARACTERIZATION OF THE TERM "WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION."

FOUR -- WE NOTE THAT DIFFERENT PERCEPTIONS OF THE TERM "WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION" MAY LIE BEHIND THE VIEWS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS TO SPECIFIC EXAMPLES CITED BY EXPERTS OF THE SOVIET UNION. I WILL NOW ONLY MENTION THREE OF THE EXAMPLES NOTED IN THE DETAILED STATEMENTS AND WORKING PAPERS CONTRIBUTED BY THOSE EXPERTS. THE THREE EXAMPLES I WILL MENTION ARE LOW-FREQUENCY SOUND FIELDS, LOW-FREQUENCY ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS, AND COMBINATION OF FUEL-AIR EXPLOSIVES WITH CONVENTIONAL DELIVERY VEHICLES. ON THE BASIS OF OUR PRESENT UNDERSTANDING, NONE OF THESE THREE EXAMPLES WOULD, IN OUR VIEW, QUALIFY AS "WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION."

FIVE -- EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS THAT EXAMINATION OF DIVERSE NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION WOULD REQUIRE SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO QUESTIONS OF DEFINITION, SCOPE, AND VERIFICATION ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO APPRAISE THE RELEVANCE OF THIS EXPERIENCE TO THE PROCESS OF JUDGING THE FEASIBILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

SIX -- WE TOOK PARTICULAR NOTE OF THE INTERESTING OBSERVATION ON AUGUST 10 OF THE EXPERT FROM SWEDEN, WHO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POINTED OUT THAT THE PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET UNION SEEMS, AS AN INHERENT REQUIREMENT, TO INVOLVE A FORECASTING FUNCTION TO IDENTIFY FUTURE WEAPON POTENTIALITIES. THIS ASPECT OF THE PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET UNION SEEMS TO US TO BE OF CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE AND WE WILL WISH TO STUDY ITS IMPLICATIONS THOROUGHLY.

MR. CHAIRMAN, THE UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN NOTE OF A GREAT MANY MORE POINTS THAN THOSE IN THE SIX AREAS I HAVE JUST MENTIONED, AND ALL OF THEM WILL BE GIVEN CAREFUL STUDY BY US. I HAVE DESCRIBED THESE SIX TOPICS TO ILLUSTRATE THE GENERAL CONCLUSION THAT, IN OUR VIEW, THESE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ADVANCING THE PROCESS OF CLARIFYING THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET UNION AND, IN THAT WAY,

HELPING US TO MOVE FORWARD ON ASSESSMENT OF THAT
PROPOSAL.

END TEXT.CATTO

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